



RESOURCES

FOR CHILDREN WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS

DIAPERS

As a child, learning to use the bathroom is a normal part of development. Even in children who don't have a physical, mental, or emotional disability, the rate at which they develop this skill varies greatly. Many children without disabilities are not completely toilet trained until 4 or 5 years of age, and many children with Autism and other developmental disabilities are not potty trained or will have accidents at night. While families are expected to pay for diapers for families who have a child who is developing late, there may be resources to help you pay for or provide diapers and other supplies:

Diaper Distribution Centers for diapers sizes Newborn to 6 (under 35 lbs).

- The Health Education Center (HEC) 1725 Western Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92411 has a Monthly Free Diaper for Residents of San Bernardino County. You must live in San Bernardino County within the income guidelines. For more information call the Health Education Center at (909) 806-1816.
- IEHP COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER. 3590 Tyler Street Suite 101, Riverside, CA (866) 228-4347. Helps families in need with resources they need. Provides free diapers size newborn-6 only. (Case by case) Families do not have to have an IEHP health plan.

Your medical insurance may cover a portion or the full price of big kid diapers for children with special needs because they are a necessity. Check your medical insurance for the age and benefits. Medi-Cal may cover protective underwear, briefs, disposable under pads, and bladder control pads every month for children 5 years or older. To be approved for incontinence supplies under Medi-Cal, you must have documented proof within the last six months that the items are considered medically necessary by a physician including the medical reason for needing supplies, the estimated amount of supplies needed per day, the qualifying medical need, such as diabetes, autism, Down syndrome, etc.



California Children's Services (CCS) may authorize diapers, wipes, and other supplies to be approved for CCS clients over three years if the child has these requirements. CCS is a State program for children with certain diseases or health problems. This program allows children up to 21 years old to get the necessary health care and services. Some of the conditions covered include diseases of the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, or genito-urinary systems, congenital or acquired disorders resulting in neurogenic bladder or bowel and which have not responded to treatment, neuromuscular disorders which prevent the development of motor skills necessary for continence or independent toileting, including cerebral palsy. For more information on this program, visit www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/medicaleligibility.aspx

Regional Centers can pay for some equipment and supplies for children and adults with developmental disabilities, which helps the child or adult maintain or maximize their independence or address a specific developmental need. Examples include paying for diapers, formula, or nutritional supplements for children/adults. Talk to your caseworker. Regional Center may ask you for the following:

- Verify you have checked with other generic services and you do not qualify. Generic services are services that a public agency is responsible for providing to members of the public and with public money. Examples of generic services are Medi-Cal, your health insurance, and California Children's Services (CCS).
- A doctor's note saying the need for equipment or supplies is related to developmental disability. Examples of these conditions are profound mental retardation, severe physical conditions with congenital abnormality of the urogenital organs, and severe neuromuscular disorders that preclude toilet training.
- The cost of supplying diapers would create financial hardship for the family.

For more information:

IEHP Community Resource Center - www.iehp.org/en/community/community-resource-centers

Medi-Cal Diapers - <https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/publications/masters-mtp/part2/incont.pdf>

CCS - www.dhcs.ca.gov/Services/CCS

Regional Centers - inlandrc.org

NEED HELP?
IEAUTISM.ORG/CLASE